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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO

Chief - Finance Division

DATE: 13 November 1951

FROM:

Deputy Comptroller

SUBJECT:

Entertainment of United States Officials

REF:

Memo of 24 Sept 51, to Deputy Comptroller, on above subject, with an attached memo from the Chief, Plans Division (OPC), in which is requested an interpretation or modification of Agency regulations to permit the entertainment of US government officials by the Chief, Plans Division, in the performance of his official duties.

- 1. The problems presented in referenced memorandum and attachment were discussed with the Comptroller and the Deputy Director (Administration). It was the opinion of the DD(A) that Section 7.2 of the Confidential Funds Regulations cannot be interpreted as a general authority for the entertainment of US officials under circumstances contemplated in the request of the Chief, Plans Division. It was agreed that isolated and rare instances of such entertainment, if deemed operationally essential, could be allowed under Section 7.2 if specifically approved by the Assistant Director concerned.
- 2. The DD(A), however, also expressed the opinion if an individual were assigned specific duties which necessarily required him to undertake extensive entertainment of US government officials, that special authorization for such entertainment would have to be secured from the Director of Central Intelligence, and that actual entertainment performed pursuant to such authorization would have to be approved by the Assistant Director concerned.
- 3. In reviewing this interpretation in terms of Section 7.2, as written, it appears that the regulation is far more permissive than intended. This obviously places the Finance Division and its Certifying Officers in an awkward position vis-a-vis the individuals and the officials who are claiming reimbursement for entertainment of US officials. It is therefore suggested that your office draft such revision of this regulation as will clarify and establish the procedural requirements under which reimbursement can be made for such entertainment.



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Deputy Comptroller